

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 062938

61
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 A-01 FBO-02 SY-05 SCS-03 SCA-01

OPR-02 OC-05 CCO-00 SCCT-01 /071 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:GCB

APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON, JR.

NEA/P:GSHERMAN

NEA:ADAY

S/PRS:RFUNSETH

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O 160036Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 062938

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, LE

SUBJECT: TV TRICK

REF: BEIRUT 2303; EMBASSY/NEA TELECON MARCH 15

1. DEPARTMENT IS THINKING OF PROTESTING TO NBC, CBS AND ABC THE BRIBERY OR TRICKERY THAT RESULTED IN THE LOCAL MILITIA AND MUSLIM SOLDIERS SENDING OFF TANK ROUNDS FROM IMMEDIATE AREA OF CHANCERY.

2. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT ALL THREE NETWORKS WERE INVOLVED? ALSO DO WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE TANK CREW LOOSESES OFF AN OCCASIONAL ROUND JUST FOR THE HELL OF IT EVEN WHEN THERE ARE NO PAYING SPECTATORS? FINALLY, IF WE PROTEST TO THE NETWORKS IS THERE ANY REMOTE CHANCE THAT THIS WILL GET BACK

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PAGE 02 STATE 062938

TO THE LOCAL MILITIA AND IRREGULARS AROUND THE CHANCERY AND

DAMAGE THE SO FAR PRETTY GOOD RELATIONSHIP THE EMBASSY HAS
WITH THESE PEOPLE? OUR CONCERN REMAINS, OF COURSE, THAT
NOTHING TAKE PLACE WHICH COULD HARM YOUR SECURITY, AND
PROTEST TO NETWORKS POSSIBLY COULD PREVENT ANOTHER REPETI-
TION OF THIS INCIDENT.

3. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AT TODAY'S NOON BRIEFING TOOK
OCCASION TO ASSURE THE PRESS THAT EVERYONE AT AMERICAN
EMBASSY WAS SAFE. KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: PROTECTIVE SECURITY, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS
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Draft Date: 16 MAR 1976
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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